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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

DATE:

SUBJECT

Field Marshal von Paulus  
and Kommandostelle West

INFO.

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DIST. 30

22 September 1947

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

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25X1X 1.

The prisoners worked five days per week and were required to attend lectures on the sixth day. They were addressed about once a month, from March to June, by Field Marshal von Paulus. The latter, with Generals Daniels and Korfes, lives in a small town near Stalinerad. Comment: Von Paulus and Korfes previously had been reported repeatedly as being near Moscow; von Paulus recently returned to Berlin.)

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Ursageti this camp, located fifty kilometers north of Batumi, held 12,000 men at that time. Most of them were mountain infantry and SS troops. These men were asked to volunteer for the Soviet Army in February 1947. After a second appeal, made during the same month, thirty PWS volunteered, after being promised new clothing, improved rations, and release after six months' service.

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3. In March 1947 the inmates of the Ursageti camp were informed that it had become an "independent" camp and would henceforth be commanded by a Colonel Hansen. A few days later, an appeal was circulated calling on all PWS to unite against the aggressive Western Powers and to snatch the Fatherland back from them. This appeal, stamped "Kommandostelle West", stated 1) a considerable number of German officers belonged to the KW; 2) the KW had been assigned to a part in the defense plan worked out by Field Marshal von Paulus for the USSR; 3) the KW had ordered the institution of military exercises. Military training began immediately in camp Ursageti, but no weapons had been issued up to 17 July 1947.

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reports that a camp near Poltava housed German volunteer units made up of approximately 5,000 SS and parachute troops. In May, German physicians, drafted in Germany, arrived at the camp. Up to 20 June, the camp strength was 15,000 officers and FM; on that date, 10,000 of the Germans, equipped with 88 mm and 150 mm AA guns, were shipped to an unknown destination. The remaining 5,000 were equipped with automatic pistols and continued to receive field training. All camp directives were received from Moscow and marked "Kommandostelle West". Signatures, when used, were illegible.

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**Comment:** Paragraph 4 agrees completely with [redacted] which gives the following additional details: CO, Col General Melimann; 10 batteries each of 88 mm and 150 mm AA guns; unit scheduled to be shipped to Odessa in mid-June.

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[redacted] Odessa [redacted] a unit of 15,000 former parachutists and SS men arrived in that city in early June. They were equipped with eight to ten batteries of heavy and medium AA guns. These troops were observed practising the boarding of freighters moored in the harbor.

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6. In early May 1947, a camp in the Tiflis area housed 5,000 Germans led by Colonel Kehler, assisted by a Soviet liaison officer. The men were equipped with automatic pistols and received frequent training.

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**Comment:** According to [redacted] para. 5, strength of this camp, near Leninakan, was 4,000 men, headed by Colonel Keller.

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